

REMARKS

In this Preliminary Amendment, Applicants have amended Claims 1-6, cancelled Claim 7, and added Claims 8-12. Thus, Claims 1-6 and 8-12 are pending in this application, of which Claims 1 and 8 are Independent Claims.

Further, Applicants have amended the attached specification (“Application Text”) to conform the application to more typical U.S. format. The amended specification will greatly facilitate prosecution of the application. Applicants submit that no new matter is injected into the application by way of the amended specification, and thus requests its entry prior to examination of the application on its merits.

Accompanying this Preliminary Amendment, Applicants respectfully submit herewith Formal Figures 1-2 to replace the original drawings that accompany the attached specification. In accordance with MPEP § 608.02 and the Revised Format procedures proposed under 37 C.F.R. § 1.121, the Formal Figures differ from the original drawings in that Formal Figures 1-2 add element numbers to more clearly indicate elements identified in the specification. Applicants respectfully submit that the Formal Figures 1-2 add no new matter, merely reflect information found in the specification, and place the application in better condition for allowance; therefore, Applicants respectfully request entry of the Formal Figures 1-2 prior to consideration of the application on its merits.

In view of the above Preliminary Amendment, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 1-6 and 8-12 are patentable and respectfully request consideration and examination of the present application and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

The Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned at his convenience should he have any questions regarding this application and to resolve any issues.

Please charge any fees required by this Preliminary Amendment, and credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 04-1403.

DORITY & MANNING, P.A.

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Date


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